Message Text

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R 231217Z JUN 78 FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA SECSTATE WASHDC 2504

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ABIDJAN PLEASE ALSO PASS ALSO COL FOULDS

E.O. 11652 GDS TAGS: MOPS, CG, IV SUBJECT: FIRST DAYS OF IVORIAN CONTINGENT IN SHABA

- 1. SUMMARY. AT MEETING WITH FIVE DOCTORS FROM IVORY COAST MEDICAL UNIT ON JUNE 22, THEY NOTED(1) THEY WERE STILL WAITING FOR LOGISTICAL SUPPORT, (2) THEY HAD NOT YET BEGUN TO WORK, AND (3) THEY WERE BECOMING DEMORALIZED. END SUMMARY
- 2. IN A MEETING WITH THE COMMANDER AND OFFICERS OF IVORY COSTS MEDICAL CONTINGENT OF THE PAN AFRICAN FORCE IT WAS LEANRED THAT THE IVORIANS HAD ARRIVED IN LUBUMBASHI WITH SOME TENTS AND 20 TONS OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES BUT WITHOUT FOOD BLANKETS AND TRANSPORT. THEY HAD BEEN PROMISED LOGISTICAL SUPPORT BEFORE THEY DEPARTED ABIDJAN. THE MOROCCANS HAVE SUPPLIED FOOD BUT THEIR OTHER NEEDS HAVE NOT BEEN FULFILLED. THEY WERE INFORMED BY THE MOROCANS THAT THEY MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN TRANSPORT.
- 3. THE IVORIANS SAID THEY HAD TELEXED ABIDJAN 12 DAYS AGO FOR ASSISTANCE. THEY HAVE ASKED FOR 105 ARMY CONFIDENTIAL

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COTS, 4 OR 5 JEEPS AND 105 WOOL BLANKETS FOR THEIR GROUP OF 100 NURSES AND 5 PHYSICIANS. THEY HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY RESPONSE FROM ABIDJAN. WITHOUT TRANSPORT THE MEDICAL TEAM IS UNABLE TO MOVE WITHOUT MOROCCAN ASSISTANCE.

4. THE IVORIAN TEAM HAS WORKED OUT A DEPLOYMENT PLAN

WITH THE MOROCCANS BUT HAS NOT YET IMPLEMENTED IT. THE PLANS IS AS FOLLOWS: KOLWEZI GCM HOSPITAL, TWO DOCTORS AND 50NURSES, LIKASI GCM HOPSITAL: ONE DOCTOR AND 25 NURSES, AND LUBUMBASHI SENDWE HOSPITAL TWO DOCTORS AND 25 NURSES. THE HEAD OF IVORIAN MISSION HAS MET WITH SOME OF STAFF MEMBERS OF SENDWE HOPSITAL, BUT THE OTHER OTHER MEMBERS HAVE NOT LEFT LUBUMBASHI. THEY HAD HOPED TO LEAVE THIS WEEKEND BUT THE MOROCCANS HAVE SAID NO TRANSPORTATION IS LIKELY BEFORE TUESDAY JUNE 27.

5. IVORIAN MORALE IS LOW. THE 100 NURSES ARE ENCAMPED AT THE LUBUMBASHI AIRPORT WITH NOTHING TO DO. THE IVORIANS ARE NOT ACCUSTOMED TO COLD WEATHER AND ARE SUFFERING FROM THE LOW NIGHTLY TEMPERATURES. THE 5 DOCTORS:OFFICERS ARE EQUALLY DOWNCAST. THEY HAVE BEEN PLACED AT THE KARAVIA HOTEL, FOR THEIR THEIR TROOPS WITHOUT TRANSPORT AND LITTLE TO DO. MOREOVER THE IVORIANS FIND THAT THE OFFICIAL ARTIFICIAL EXCHANGE RATE IS PUTTING A STRAIN ON THEIR FINANCES. THE IVORIANS ATTITUDE WAS SUMMED UP BY ONE OFFICER" IT SEEMS WE ARENT NEEDED".

6. IVORIANS SPOKE OF MISSION WHICH WOULD LAST ONLY TWO MONTHS. THEY ARE OBVIOUSLYUNHAPPY THAT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO BEGIN WORK AND THAT ASSURANCES OF CONFIDENTIAL

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SUPPORT HAVE NOT BEEN MET.

7. FOR ABIDJAN.: IVORIANS SPOKE HIGHLY OF COLONEL FOULDS. BELIEVE IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF HE COULD INQUIRE WHETHER REQUESTS FOR COTS AND BLANKETS AND JEEPS HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND IF ANY PLANS ARE UNDERWAY TO SUPPLY THESE MATERIALS.

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